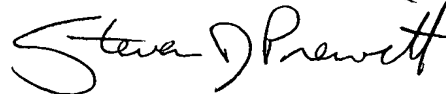


REMARKS

Claims 25-31 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1-24 are canceled and claims 25-31 are added for examination. Prompt and favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:SJP/jca

Date: December 8, 2000

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